



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroshi UCHIDA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/719,985

Confirmation No.: 5170

Filed: December 19, 2000

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ESTERS

Docket No: Q58538

Group Art Unit: 1621

Examiner: Paul A. Zucker

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 13, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 4, 8 and 12, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Amended) A process for producing an ester, comprising reacting a carboxylic acid and ethylene in the presence of an acid catalyst and in a vapor phase, wherein the concentration of olefin selected from the group consisting of trans-2-butene, cis-2-butene and 1-butene in the starting materials is 10,000 ppm or less in terms of the molar ratio to the total of the olefin and ethylene.